

Amendments to the Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A clamp for holding a plurality of rod-shaped members, comprising:

    a fitting portion to be fixed to an object to be attached;

    a first clamp portion having a substantially U-shape and attached to the fitting portion, said first clamp portion having an inner wall and an opening;

    a first receiving portion disposed inside the first clamp portion at a middle thereof in a depth direction for receiving one rod-shaped member through the opening of the first clamp portion;

    a second receiving portion disposed inside the first clamp portion at a bottom thereof for receiving another rod-shaped member through the opening of the clamp portion and the first receiving portion;

    a first elastic piece extending from the inner wall of the first clamp portion toward a center of the first receiving portion, said first elastic piece being elastically deformable for allowing the one rod-shaped member to pass therethrough and holding the one rod-shaped member in a space between the first elastic piece and the first receiving portion; and

    a stopper extending from the inner wall of the first clamp portion toward a center of the second receiving portion, said stopper being elastically deformable for allowing the another rod-shaped member to enter the second receiving portion to hold the another rod-shaped member in a space between the stopper and the second receiving portion, said stopper including a base portion extending from the inner wall of the first clamp portion at a substantially right angle, and a holding piece formed at an end of the base portion to extend generally vertically to the base portion, said holding piece having one end extending toward the second receiving portion and the other end extending toward the first receiving portion, said holding piece being rotatably attached to

the base portion so that when the another rod-shape member is retained in the second receiving portion, the other end and preventing is directed to a center area of the first receiving portion to prevent the one rod-shaped member from entering the second receiving portion.

2. (original) A clamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said stopper is situated under the first receiving portion.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A clamp as claimed in claim 3 1, wherein said holding piece has a thickness larger than that of the base portion.

5. (cancelled)

6. (currently amended) A clamp as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second elastic piece extending from a wall opposite to the inner wall of the first clamp portion toward the center of the first receiving portion and facing the first elastic piece for holding the one rod-shaped member in a space defined by the first elastic piece, the second elastic piece and the first receiving portion, said second elastic piece being elastically deformable for allowing the another rod-shaped member to pass therethrough.

7. (currently amended) A clamp as claimed in claim 6, further comprising a third elastic piece extending from a wall opposite to the inner wall of the first clamp portion toward the center of the second receiving portion and facing the stopper for holding the another rod-shaped member in a space defined by the stopper, the third elastic piece and the second receiving portion, said third elastic piece being elastically deformable for allowing the another rod-shaped member to pass therethrough.

8. (original) A clamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first clamp portion has an elasticity so that the opening of the first clamp portion expands outwardly to allow the one and another rod shaped members to enter into the first and second receiving portions.

9. (currently amended) A clamp as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a second clamp portion integrally formed with and located adjacent to the first clamp portion, said second clamp portion including a third receiving portion disposed at a middle thereof for receiving a further rod-shaped member, a fourth receiving portion disposed at a bottom thereof for receiving a still further rod-shaped member through the third receiving portion, a second elastic piece extending from an inner wall of the second clamp portion toward a center of the third receiving portion, and a ~~fourth~~ third elastic piece extending from the inner wall of the second clamp portion toward a center of the fourth receiving portion.

10. (new) A clamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein said holding piece is arranged to the base portion so that an inner surface of the holding piece orients slightly upwardly.